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AND

COLONIAL JOURNAL.

VOL. VII.

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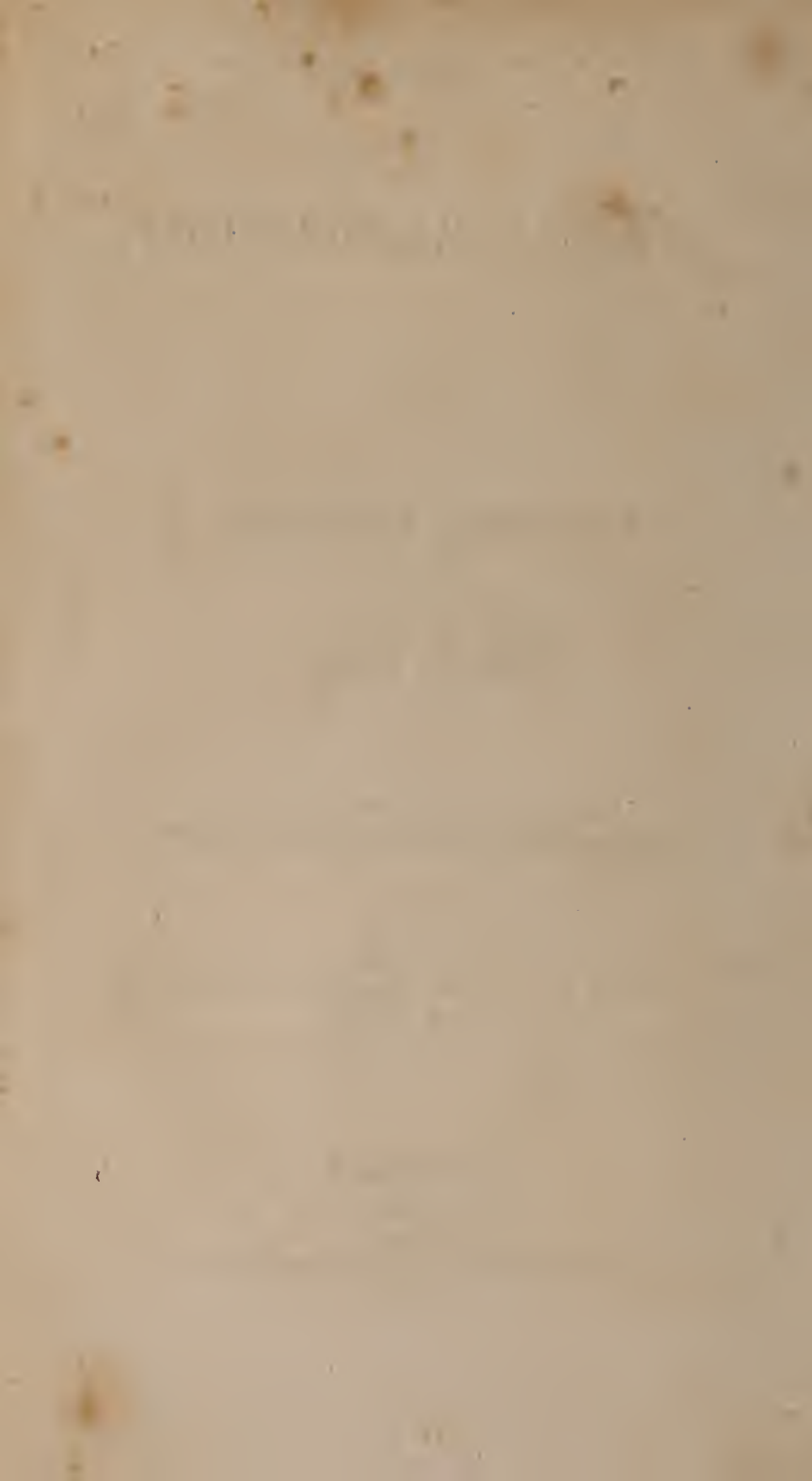
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Review.

*Travels in the Timmance, Kooranko and Soolima Countries, in Western Africa. By Major ALEXANDER GORDON LAING, London, 1825.*

(Continued from p. 11.)

HAVING remained two or three days at Ma Boom, Major Laing proceeded on his way, but before he reached Kooloofa, he discovered that a plot had been laid, by Smeilla, the head man of Ma Boom, to assassinate him, and plunder his party on their journey. Musah Kanta, the native of Foota Jallou, had ascertained from an old woman of Ma Boom, the nature of the design, and it was defeated. Near Ma Boom, Major Laing ascended "a gentle acclivity, at the base of which were scattered several gigantic masses of compact granite, and beheld towards the Eastward, the blue mountains of Kooranko, bounding the horizon from North to South, as far as the eye could reach. The soil around Ma Boom, appeared principally of a vegetable origin, being a rich black loam, mixed with a little clay and fine sand, the debris of granite, washed from the Kooranko hills."

From the circumstance, that Ma Boom was inhabited, partly by Mandingoes, Major Laing, takes occasion to present a brief account of this interesting people. He considers them decidedly superior to any of the inhabitants on or near the coast of Western Africa. They emigrated about a century ago, from Manding, a country about seven hundred miles from the coast, and near to Sego, and where gold is more abundant than in any other coun-

try except Boore. The first emigrants settled near the Gambia, but being of a migratory disposition, they are to be found traversing Africa, from Tangiers to Liberia. The tribe with which Major Laing became best acquainted, settled in the Soosoo country, of which the Capital is Fouricaria, and many of the Soosoo became proselytes to their religion. Disputes followed the accession of Amara, (their King) and the persons and property of individuals became so insecure, that many families emigrated to the neighboring countries. We insert the following description of this powerful and influential people.

"The costume of the Mandingoes, is extremely plain, simple, neat and becoming; the cap is of blue or red cloth, conical in shape, and neatly worked with different threads; the shirt, which hangs loosely over the trowsers, is truly simple in its construction, being formed of about a fathom or more of blue or white baft doubled, with a small hole cut in the top to admit the head; the sides are sewed up about half way, leaving sufficient room for the play of the arms; trowsers of the same materials, reach merely to the knee. The width of the trowsers, is a great mark of distinction among the Mandingoes; hence, the common expression among them, Koorte Abooniato, "large trowsers," which is synonymous with "great man." To such an extent, indeed, do they carry this fashion, that I have known a head-man with a whole piece of baft, about twenty yards, made into one pair. The females wear a pang cloth of baft about a yard in width, around the waist; impending as far as the calf of the leg; and a shawl, or some fancy cloth suspended from the head, and covering the neck and shoulders, if they are not at work; with this cloth they also conceal their faces, if required to eat or drink in the presence of a man. A Mandingo, unless he is a Nyimahalah, seldom walks abroad without his gun; and every man carries with him a cutlass or knife, suspended from his right thigh, which instrument serves for many purposes.

There are four trades or professions, to which conjointly is given the appellation of Nyimahalah; they rank in the order in which they are enumerated, and consist of the *fino*, or orator; the *jelle*, or minstrel; the *guarange*, or shoemaker; and the *noomo*, or blacksmith; all of whom are high in the scale of society, and are possessed of great privileges. They travel throughout the country unmolested, even in war; and strangers, if of sable hue, are always safe under their protection.

The distinctions of rank, although kept up among the Mandingoes, more than among the generality of African tribes, are nevertheless few. The preachers and teachers of the Koran, are held in estimation, next to the King or Ruler of a country; the respect which they shew to learning is a trait in their character much to be admired.

A destitute old man is unknown among the Mandingoes; a son considers it his first duty to look after, and provide for his aged father's comfort. There is no nation, with which I am acquainted, where age is treated with so much respect and deference.

The appearance of the Mandingoes, is engaging, their features are regular and open; their persons well formed and comely, averaging a height rather above the common.

Their education in general, consists in learning to read and write a few passages of the Koran, and to recite a few prayers. During their education, a period of three or four years, they are under the care of, and perform menial offices for the priest or maraboo, who instructs them, and to whom the parents pay occasional instalments, in the shape of presents, until a certain sum is made up, nor can the youth be taken from the hands of his master, till the education money is made good. The hours of precept are generally in the evening, after sunset; when, seated around a blazing fire, the children read aloud their task, which is written with a pen or reed, upon an oblong painted board. Every boy reads at the same time, and as quickly as he can, but the master becomes so well accustomed to the sound of their several voices, that a mistake is instantly corrected. The religion is Mohamedan, but they are not rigid in its observances; they pray five times a day, viz: at sunrise, or sungafoo; at 2 P. M. or soolufuna; at 4 P. M. or lahansarra; at sunset, or sungomane; and at 8 P. M. for which I cannot recollect that they have any particular name.

They commence and terminate all palavers by prayer, the whole assemblage repeating to the final sentences, *Amena*, our (*Amen*) in a manner truly decorous and impressive."

The country around New Ma Boom is thickly wooded; the pasturages are rich, and well stocked with cattle, sheep and goats—and the sons of the chiefs, like those of the ancient Patriarchs, attend them with great assiduity and care. The productions are rice, cassada, yams, ground nuts, and the plantain. Rice and honey constitute the principal part of their food; and those who can procure it, drink milk. The Mandingoes induce the bees to hive around their farms; the hive is simple, and the honey taken from them as in England.

At Kooloofa, Major Laing met with a most kind and hospitable reception; the Chief, Massa Kumma, expressing great joy that he had escaped from Moodi Smeilla, whom he pronounced "a great rogue, and utterly without regard to character or good name." Massa Kumma was thankful for the present

which was given him, and observed that it would have been equally acceptable, had it been but a single leaf of tobacco.—“I see,” said he, “that you have come for the good of the country, and I have the good of my country at heart;” and shaking my hand, added: “White man, go; the road is before you, and you shall have all the assistance I can give.”

Passing through a most beautiful country, abounding in camwood and palmtrees, (the soil a rich black mould, and the hills granite,) our traveller soon arrived at Seemera, the capital of the southeastern district of Kooranko. Be Simera, the Chief, brought several articles as presents, and thanked God “that he had seen a white man, and would do any thing in his power to help him, as he was sure he could have no other object in coming to the country, than to do good.” His minstrel was sent to welcome the white man with a song. This man played all night at the door of Major Laing, who dismissed him in the morning with thanks and a head of tobacco.

The next town visited by Major Laing was Nyiniah, the Chief of which paid him an early visit, with his principal minstrel, who sung “of the white man who came out of the water to live among the Kooranko people; the white man ate nothing but fish when he lived in the water, and that was the cause of his being so thin. If he came among black men he would get fat, for they would give him cows, goats, and sheep to eat, and his thirst should be quenched with draughts of milk.”

Pursuing his journey through a very beautiful country, the party finally arrived at the summit of one of the Kooranko mountains, called Sa Wolle, about 1,900 feet above the level of the sea; beneath which, lay spread a grand and extensive prospect, a “capacious circle of nearly two degrees in diameter, only interrupted by a hill to the eastward, which rose considerably higher.”

At a town called Kania, the head man begged Major Laing to remain until he could accompany him on his way. In the evening, dancing commenced, and songs, with which our traveller was little pleased. “They sang of the white man, who had come to their town; of the house full of money which he had; such cloth, such beads, such fine things had never been seen in



Kooranko before; if their husbands were men, and wished to see their wives well dressed, they ought to take some of the money from the white man." One of Major Laing's servants, Zamba, answered them by a counter song. "He sung of Sierra Leone; of houses, a mile in length, filled with money. That the white man who was here had nothing compared to those in Sierra Leone; if, therefore, they wished to see some of the rich men from that country come into Kooranko, they must not trouble this one: whoever wanted to see a snake's tail, must not strike at his head."

At Kamato, (which appears to be the last town in Kooranko, passed through by Major Laing,) he experienced a severe attack of fever, accompanied by dysentery, from which, at the close of five days, he began to recover. Here he was met by a party sent with two horses, by the King of the Soolimas, who had heard of his approach, and greatly desired to see him. One of the number, who had seen Major Laing in the Mandingo country, leaped for joy when he beheld him, and all were most anxious for him to proceed immediately to Falaba, the capital of the Soolima nation. The following are the principal facts which Major Laing has recorded concerning the country and people of Kooranko.

"Kooranko is bounded west by the Bullom, Limba, and Timmanee countries, on the north by Limba, Tamisso and Soolima; on the east by Kissi, the river Niger, and by countries unknown; and on the south by countries bordering on the ocean. The capital of southwestern Kooranko is Seemera; and that of northwestern, Koolakonka, where Ballansama the present King, who is a man of considerable influence and property, resides. The kingdom of Kooranko extends far to the eastward, the natives stating that the limit could not be reached in one moon. Komato is the second town in importance in northwestern Kooranko; contains about 1,000 inhabitants, and stands upon the pinnacle of a hill quite inaccessible, except by two entrances, which are guarded by strong and massive gates. In language and dress the Koorankos are very like the Mandingoes, though less handsome and intelligent. Marriage is merely an affair of business, so that the elders have the undisputed choice of the youth and beauty; but although a female, when young, is compelled to marry him who will pay most for her, yet at the death of her husband, she usually chooses for herself some young man whom she tends with the most affec-



tionate care and regard. The women spin cotton, holding the distaff in the left hand, and drawing the thread with the right, and at the same time giving a rotatory motion to a sort of spindle, around which the thread winds itself. The only employments of the men are sewing and weaving. Rice, plantains, yams, wild spinage, ground nuts, cassada, pine apples, and bananas are abundant. They have no external worship, but believe in the existence of a Deity, as is evident from their expressions: 'Thank God for it; I will, if it please God; may God bless you for that; this is not man's work, it is the work of God.' Dancing is one of the favorite amusements of the Koorankos, and every man of note has three or four of its professors in his establishment."

On the 5th of June Major Laing left Komato, and proceeded on his way to Falaba. The whole of the 6th was spent at Komia, and at night the visit of the white stranger was celebrated by dancing, in which both young and old engaged, while the sweet airs of the ballafoo gave life and joy to their movements. The airs, says Major Laing, "were soft and wild, and excited within me so strong a remembrance of early days, that I wanted but little inducement to have joined the merry throng." At Semba, a very considerable town, Major Laing was met by a band of music, which preceded him to a large vacant piece of ground, where he was welcomed by about 700 well dressed personages. This town stands upon a lofty eminence, being 1490 feet above the level of the sea. Here our traveller was treated with all possible kindness.

"The head man of the town, a most respectable and venerable looking old man, almost bent double with age, was almost beside himself with joy, when he heard of my approach; and to do honor to the king's stranger, sent a band of music and fifty armed men to precede our entrance into the town. When I shook hands with this old man, he solemnly took off his cap, and lifting his aged eyes to heaven, fervently thanked his Creator for having blessed him with the sight of a white man before he died. He gave me three white fowls, a dozen fresh eggs, eight calabashes of rice, six bunches of plantains, some ground nuts, and two calabashes full of milk; no bad present in the interior of Africa to a set of hungry travellers. Hospitality was not confined to the head man, for we received an attention at the hands of every one, and were literally loaded with presents of fowls, eggs, and vegetables."

Spirit of Christianity! Spirit of justice! does this simple account of African kindness and generosity make no appeal to the hearts and consciences of white men? Can we be unaffected by this touching narrative? Shall we, with all the blessings of liberty and education, the lights of philosophy and religion, consent to endure the dishonor of exhibiting less elevation and purity of moral sentiment, than was evinced by this poor old African in the interior of a continent, through the overshadowing ignorance and superstition of which scarce a ray of science or of Christianity has broken? May Heaven preserve us from such disgrace!

On approaching Falaba, Major Laing admired the fine fertile country; and about 10 o'clock on the 11th of June, came in sight of Falaba, the capital of the Soolima nation. Having passed along a street or defile of about half a mile in length, he entered an open ground, which stands near'y in the centre of the town, in one corner of which he found seated upwards of 2,000 men armed with muskets, bows, and spears. He was saluted by a heavy but irregular discharge of musquetry, and the salute was returned. Major Laing then alighted, and shook hands with the king, who put into his hands two massive rings of gold, and made a motion for him to sit down beside him. I found him, he remarks, "a good looking man, about sixty years of age; his countenance mild, agreeable, and inoffensive in its expression; he is rather taller than the generality of Soosoos, being about five feet eleven inches in height, and his plain loose garment of black country cloth became him well. I was scarcely seated when my old friend Yarradee, mounted on a fiery charger, crossed the parade at a full gallop, followed by about thirty warriors on horseback, and 2,000 on foot, the latter making a precipitous rush, and firing in all directions. While these warlike movements were going forward, another set of people were by no means idle; consisting of above one hundred musicians, who, playing upon divers instruments, drums, flutes, ballafoos, harps of rude workmanship, with many other kinds, which it would be too tedious to enumerate, kept up a din sufficient almost to crack the tympanum of ordinary ears. A nod from the king at length put a stop to this clang of steel and din of drums. Being again seated, a Jelle, or singing man, elegantly attired in the Mandin-

go costume, his wrists and elbows ornamented with bells, and beating on a sweet toned ballafoo, the notes of which he ran over with taste and velocity, stepped out, and after playing a sort of symphony or prelude, commenced a dialogue with some persons who did not appear at first, but who afterwards joined him."

"*Jelle*.—There is a white man come from afar, come from the very salt water, that a Soolima man has never seen. Let us do him honor, for he has come to shake hands with the great Assana Yeera, the powerful in war. Let us do honor to Assana Yeera, and show the white man that he is great, and that his people love him because he is good. Where are my wives, to join me in the song?

¶ (*Voices answering, of the wives who had not yet appeared.*)—We are here, but we fear the white man's skin; we fear his greegrees will kill us, if we dare to look upon him; none but men can behold him; the woman fears him too much.\*

*Jelle*.—Come out, my wives, and see the white man: come out, and do him honor; his greegrees are strong, it is true, but then he is good, and has walked to this country to do us good.

*Wives entering*.—Then we come, but we must shut our eyes, for we never yet looked upon a man with a white skin; we come to do him honour, we come to sing to him of the Assana Yeera, renowned in war; and of the heroic Yarradee, his valiant brother."

(*To be continued.*)



## Discoveries and Adventures in Africa.

BY PROFESSOR JAMES WILSON AND HUGH MURRAY.

This constitutes No. XVI. of Harper's edition of the Family Library, and with regard to travellers in Africa, is what the preceding number respecting the discoveries in the Arctic Regions is, with regard to Northern adventures,—a concise summary of the results of their many and various attempts, illustrated with notices of the animal, vegetable, and mineral life of that great continent. The wood cuts, however, which purport to present to the eye some of the objects described in the text, had been better omitted, for their execution is wretched.

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\* The Soolima females conceal their faces when they either eat or drink in the presence of men; they never venture to take even the smallest unauthorized liberty.

The bold and untameable spirit of adventure, which has led so many gallant and accomplished travellers to follow each other in the fatal career of African discovery, has imparted an interest to their labors and sacrifices which nothing that as yet has resulted from them can otherwise explain. Mr. Murray has, in the volume before us, presented a succinct narrative of these, and all preceding voyages—(excluding *Egypt*, as being in a wholly different condition from the rest of Africa, and entitled to a volume by itself,) while Messrs. Jameson and Wilson have arranged the scientific details. A few extracts will enable our readers to judge of the interest of this book.

The animal world in Africa changes equally its nature as it passes from one to another of these opposite regions. In those plains which are inundated by the great rivers, it multiplies at an extraordinary rate, and often assumes huge and repulsive forms. Throughout all this continent the wild tribes exist in large and formidable numbers, and there is scarcely a tract which they do not either hold in full possession, or fiercely dispute with man. Even the most densely-peopled countries border on wide forests and wastes, whose savage tenants find their prey occasionally in man himself, as well as in the domestic animals which surround him; and when the scent of human slaughter is wafted on the breeze, bands of hungry monsters hasten from every side to the feast of blood. These ferocious creatures hold, indeed, so commanding a position, that the colonists scarcely make any attempt to extirpate them, or even to keep down their numbers. He wages against them only a defensive war, and employs his courage and skill chiefly in hunting the elephant, the antelope, and other peaceful species, by whose spoil he may be enriched.

The lion, that king of the desert, that mightiest among the tribes which have the wilderness for their abode, abounds in Africa, and causes all her forests to re-echo his midnight roar. Yet both his courage and fierceness have, it is said, been over-rated; and the man who can undauntedly face him, or evade his first dreadful spring, rarely falls his victim. Wider ravages are committed by the hyena, not the strongest, but the most ferocious and untameable of all the beasts of prey. These creatures, by moving in numerous bands, achieve what is beyond the single



strength of the greater animals; they burst with mighty inroad into the cities, and have even carried by storm fortified enclosures. The elephant roams in vast herds through the densely-wooded tracts of the interior, disputing with the lion the rank of king of the lower creation; matchless in bulk and strength, yet tranquil, majestic, peaceful, led in troops under the guidance of the most ancient of the number, having a social and almost moral existence. He attacks neither man nor beast. The human being is more frequently the aggressor, not only with a view of protecting the fruits of the earth, but also in order to obtain the bony substance composing his tusks, which, under the name of ivory, forms one of the most valued articles of African trade. The prodigious strength of the elephant, his almost impenetrable hide, his rapid though unwieldy movements, render him a most perilous object of attack, even to the boldest hunters; so that pits and snares of various kinds are the usual modes by which his capture is effected. Instead of the tiger, Africa has the leopard and the panther; belonging, however, only to certain of its districts.

In the large and broad rivers of Africa, and through the immense forests which overshadow them, a race of amphibious animals of monstrous form and size display their unwieldy figures. The rhinoceros, though not strictly amphibious, slowly traverses marshes and swampy grounds, and almost equals the elephant in strength and defensive powers, but wants his stature, his dignity, and his wisdom. The single or double horn with which he defends himself, is an article of commerce in the East, though not valued in Europe. A still huger shape is that of the hippopotamus, or river-horse, fitted alike to stalk on land; to march along the bottom of the waters, or to swim on their surface.—He is slow, ponderous, gentle; yet when annoyed, either by design or accident, his wrath is terrible; he rushes up from his watery retreat, and by merely striking with his enormous tusks, can upset or sink a loaded canoe. But the most dreadful of all the inhabitants of the African rivers, is the crocodile, the largest and fiercest of the lizard tribe. He lies like a log upon the waters watching for his prey, attacking men, and even the strongest animals, which, however, engage with him in obstinate and deadly encounters.

We have not yet done with all the monstrous and prodigious forms which Africa generates. She swarms with the serpent broods, which spread terror, some by their deadly poison, others by their mere bulk and strength. In this last respect, the African serpents have struck the world with amazement; ancient history records that whole provinces were overrun by them, and that one, after disputing the passage of a river with a Roman army, was destroyed only by the use of battering engines.

Among the notices, brief as of course in such a compend they must be, of the various travellers in these Libyan deserts, we find the following one of our countryman Ledyard, though without any intimation that he was an American:—

The first adventurer was Mr. Ledyard, who, born a traveller, had spent his life in passing from one extremity of the earth to another. He had sailed round the world with Captain Cook, had lived for several years among the American Indians, and had made a journey with the most scanty means from Stockholm round the gulf of Bothnia, and thence to the remotest parts of Asiatic Russia. On his return he presented himself to Sir Joseph Banks, to whom he owed many obligations, just as that eminent person was looking out for an African discoverer. He immediately pronounced Ledyard to be the very man he wanted, and recommended him to Mr. Beaufoy, who was struck with his fine countenance, frank conversation, and an eye expressive of determined enterprise. Ledyard declared this scheme to be quite in unison with his own wishes; and on being asked how soon he could set out; he replied, “to-morrow.” Affairs were not quite so matured; but he was soon provided with a passage to Alexandria, with the view of first proceeding southward from Cairo to Sennaar, and thence traversing the entire breadth of the African continent. He arrived at Cairo the 19th August, 1788, and while preparing for his journey into the interior, transmitted some bold, original, though somewhat fanciful observations upon Egypt. He represents the Delta as an unbounded plain of excellent land miserably cultivated; the villages as most wretched assemblages of poor mud-huts, full of dust, fleas, flies, and all the curses of Moses; and the people as below the rank of any savages he ever saw, wearing only a blue shirt and drawers, and tattooed

as much as the South Sea islanders. He bids his correspondents, if they wish to see Egyptian women, to look at any group of gypsies behind a hedge in Essex. The Mohammedans he describes as a trading, enterprising, superstitious, war-like set of vagabonds, who, wherever they are bent upon going, will and do go; but he complains that the condition of a Frank is rendered most humiliating and distressing by the furious bigotry of the Turks. It seemed inconceivable that such enmity should exist among men, and that beings of the same species should think and act in a manner so opposite. By conversing with the jelabs, or slave merchants, he learned a good deal respecting the caravan routes and countries of the interior. Every thing seemed ready for his departure, and he announced that his next communication would be from Sennaar; but, on the contrary, the first tidings received were those of his death. Some delays in the departure of the caravan, working upon his impatient spirit, brought on a bilious complaint, to which he applied rash and violent remedies, and thus reduced himself to a state from which the care of Rosetti, the Venetian consul, and the skill of the best physicians of Cairo, sought in vain to deliver him.

Concerning Park, on his first journey, under circumstances of the most depressing nature, we extract this fine passage:—

Naked and alone, in a vast wilderness, 500 miles from any settlement, surrounded by savage beasts and men still more savage, he saw no prospect before him but to lie down and perish. From this depth of despondency his mind was suddenly revived by a mingled impression of nature and of religion. A small moss, in a state of fructification, struck his eye, the delicate conformation of whose roots, leaves, and capsule, could not be contemplated without admiration. He then bethought himself,—“Can that being who planted, watered, and brought to perfection, in this obscure corner of the world, a thing which appears of so small importance, look with unconcern upon the situation and sufferings of creatures formed after his own image?” Inspired by these just and pious reflections, he started up and went on, despite of fatigue; and he soon found deliverance to be nearer than he had any reason to anticipate.—*N. Y. American.*



## Report

*Of the Committee of the Pennsylvania Colonization Society.*

This Committee, of which the venerable Bishop White is Chairman, and Elliot Cresson, Esq. Secretary, made an interesting Report on the 15th of last month. They mention the return of the *Carolinian*, (by which vessel, 45 manumitted slaves were sent to the Colony, and their entire expenses defrayed by the Pennsylvania Society,) and publish several very encouraging extracts from the letters of the Colonial Agent. On one subject, education, too little appears as yet to be done in the Colony, but it is the opinion of Dr. Mechlin, that the recent measures of the Managers of the Colonization Society, will result in an efficient school system and that the Colonists begin duly to feel its importance. In allusion to the want of adequate schools, the committee express their pleasure,

“That this only unpropitious circumstance mentioned by Gov. Mechlin, is about to be remedied in part, by the liberality of an association of female Friends in this city, who have already engaged two well qualified coloured women, to establish schools in the Colony, an example we cannot but highly recommend to the ladies of Philadelphia, when it is recollected that we have nearly 10,000 native allies in Liberia, who express the most earnest solicitude for obtaining the means of educating their children.

By a reference to our former report, it will appear that we had expended \$3214 22 in fitting out “the first and second Philadelphia Expeditions;” we have subsequently, by the liberality of our fellow citizens and the remittance of £600 sterling from several Friends in England, disbursed the further sum of \$1550 for the passages of 84 emigrants per *Carolinian* and *Volador*; making a total of \$4764 22, and leaving a balance in hand, which will be expended in seconding the benevolent intentions of those masters who have offered to the parent society, the liberation of a large number of slaves, on condition that a passage be provided for them. Encouraged by the patronage extended during the past year to this great Christian enterprise, the Board at Washington have announced in the last number of their interesting “*Repository*,” that for the purpose of accommodating the numerous applicants they will send a vessel to the Colony on the 1st of May next; and if the requisite funds be provided, will despatch other vessels at regular intervals of 60 days during the ensuing year.

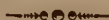
In conclusion the committee feel authorized from what has already been effected, to recommend most cordially to the patronage of their fellow

citizens, this noble charity, which will ultimately put an end to the odious traffic in human flesh and blood, which now desolates the coast of Africa; and restore to that long suffering continent, the descendants of those unfortunate victims of avarice and crime, whose sufferings for nearly two centuries, have accumulated a debt of blood and tears which we can only thus repay.

WM. WHITE, *Chairman.*

ELLIOT CRESSON, *Secretary.*

*Philadelphia, 3d month (March) 15, 1831.*



## From Liberia.

The following interesting letter from the Colonial Agent, Dr. Mechlin, to Elliot Cresson, Esq. of Philadelphia, has just appeared in some of the papers of that city. We are confident that it will afford pleasure to all the Friends of African Colonization.

"LIBERIA, Feb. 21, 1831.

"MY DEAR SIR: The prospects of the Colony were never brighter than at present; the improvements in commerce, agriculture, buildings, &c. during my short visit to the United States, have been astonishingly great, and far exceeded my most sanguine expectations. In Monrovia alone, upwards of 25 substantial stone and frame dwelling houses have been erected within the short space of five months, and many others are in progress; and should nothing intervene to interrupt our present advancement, our little town will ere long be one of the most desirable places of resort on the western coast of Africa. I have been informed by a captain recently from the leeward, that there is at present, much more business done at this place, than at any of the old European settlements on the Gold Coast. That our commerce has greatly increased, will be rendered evident by comparing the marine list contained in the Herald of the present month, with that of any of the preceding.

"Our agricultural interests, I am credibly informed, (for my health and multiplied duties have not permitted me to examine for myself) have advanced "pari passu;"—indeed the spirit of improvement appears to have gone abroad in the Colony, and the people seem to be awakened to the importance of more fully developing the resources of the country, than has hitherto been done.

"The St. Paul's River Navigation Company have as yet done nothing; but I hope the scheme will result in something very advantageous to the Colony, and highly interesting to the public at large. I will as soon as my health permits, institute an examination of the feasibility of the plan, and make a report to the Board of Managers; but that the mere attempt will be productive of benefit, I have not the least doubt.

"Our influence over the native tribes in our vicinity is rapidly extending; and since my return several have made application to be received under our protection, offering to subject themselves to our laws—or as they expressed it—'They want to be made Americans, and to be allowed to call themselves Americans.' This is, I can assure you, deemed no small privilege. In one or two instances their request has been acceded to; in others it has been thought inexpedient to grant it, in consequence of their remote situation rendering it impossible for us to afford them protection, without involving ourselves in endless and ruinous disputes with the natives; but as soon as prudence will warrant, they shall be admitted as part of the community. This mode of proceeding I find to be the most effectual of civilizing them, for as soon as they consider themselves as subjects of Liberia, they visit us more freely, and by associating with the Colonists, insensibly adopt our manners and customs, and gradually, from being ignorant pagans, become civilized, and Christians.

"We have at present among our re-captured Africans many, who on their arrival here, were scarcely a remove in point of civilization from the native tribes around us, but who are at present as pious and devoted servants of Christ, as you will meet in any community, and by their walk and conversation afford an example worthy of imitation. They have a house for public worship and Sunday Schools established, which are well attended, and their church is regularly supplied every Sunday from among our own clergy. These people I consider as forming one admirable medium of communication or link between the savage natives and the civilized Colonists from the United States, and will, I have no doubt, prove a powerful means of spreading the light of Christianity and civilization over this benighted country.

"Our Schools have hitherto been in rather a languishing condition, but I have great hopes ere long to carry into operation the system of education lately adopted by the Board of Managers, and with the view of rendering the burthen as light as possible to the Society, a law has recently been passed by the Agent and Council, taxing all the Real Estate in the Colony, at the rate of 50 cents in the hundred dollars, which tax is to be exclusively devoted to the support of public schools; the amount thus raised, together with the proceeds of sales of public lands, as well as the duties on spirituous liquors, will do much towards accomplishing this important object; and if my health should continue to improve, I trust soon to be enabled to announce, that all in the Colony are enjoying the advantages of education.

"As to the morals of the Colonists, I consider them much better than those of the people of the United States; that is, you may take an equal number of inhabitants from any section of the Union, and you will find more drunkards, more profane swearers and Sabbath breakers; &c. than in Liberia. Indeed I know of no country where things are conducted more

quietly and orderly than in this Colony. You rarely hear an oath, and as to riots or breaches of the peace, I recollect of but one instance, and that of a trifling nature, that has come under my notice since I assumed the government of the Colony. The Sabbath is more strictly observed than I ever saw it in the United States. Our Sunday Schools are well attended, not only by the children of the Colonists, but also by the native children who reside amongst us. The natives themselves are so well acquainted with our strict observance of this day, that you never find them offering any thing for sale, nor can you hire them to work for you, I mean those who have been amongst us and at all acquainted with our customs. Mr. Skinner, the Baptist Missionary, stated that he was surprised to find every thing conducted in so orderly a manner, and the Sabbath so strictly observed, and that the state of society was much better than he expected to find it.

"The death of Dr. Humphries, which occurred a few days since, will, I fear, as usual be attributed to our climate—nothing is further from the truth. The fact is, that when he landed he was very far gone in a consumption of the lungs."



## Signs in Kentucky.

We perceive by the Western Luminary, that a plan has been proposed with a view to the safe and gradual emancipation of the slaves in that State. The following is published as a declaration of the views of those who are inclined to form themselves into a society, for the promotion of this object.

"GRADUAL AND SAFE EMANCIPATION.—We, the undersigned, Slaveholders, under full conviction that there are insurmountable obstacles to the general emancipation of the present generation of slaves, but equally convinced of the necessity and practicability of emancipating their future offspring, have determined to form ourselves into a society, for the purpose of investigating and impressing these truths upon the public mind, as well by example as by precept; by adopting among ourselves such a system for the gradual emancipation of our slaves as we would recommend to our fellow-citizens for their adoption, as the law of the land; and by dispersing such writings as may be likely to contribute to so good an end. The Society will not be called together till fifty subscribers are obtained."

Several gentlemen have announced their desire to unite in the organization of such a Society. The following letter addressed to the Editor of the Luminary, is from a source, and possesses merits, which entitle it to a place in our journal.



“BREDALBANE, *March 18th*, 1831.

MR. SKILLMAN: I have observed in your paper a notice relative to the formation of a society, intended to promote the gradual emancipation of the slaves of this commonwealth. I have also had an opportunity of understanding from several of the promoters and warm friends of this measure, by private conversations with them, their ultimate plan of operations more perfectly than could have been ascertained merely from a short advertisement.

“It is perhaps best that a movement of this sort should have proceeded from persons owning slaves; and therefore I understand, it is, that a certain number of slave holders should first manifest a disposition to promote such views, before any decisive step was taken. It could never be the intention, however, to draw a permanent line of separation between slave holders and non-slave holders, in the prosecution of plans which I firmly believe equally involve the interest and the duty of both classes.—I understand, therefore, that among the earliest steps of the society when formed, will be to unite the co-operation and union of all those of every class of citizens, who think slavery an evil, and desire its extinction. I think these views are not only correct, but so obviously true and necessary, (especially the latter of them) that I would not concur in any plan of operations, which would separate me, even in appearance, from the great body of non-slave holders who coincide in sentiment with us, on the general question.

“As to the proposed pledge required of the members of the contemplated society, that they will provide for the gradual emancipation of their own slaves, at all events, and without reference to the result of ultimate operations—I confess that I see, or think I see much in it that will embarrass the proceedings of the friends of the great measure at stake. It is due to candour, to say this much. But I will readily and cheerfully yield, on such points, my own opinion, to the mature judgment of our friends, when that is hereafter properly ascertained.

“I think it is evident to every person of observation, that a very great revolution in public opinion, on the subject of slavery, has taken place within a few years. It is now generally admitted, that a very large number of those owning slaves, perhaps as many as one third of them, would decidedly favour the gradual emancipation of the slaves of this State; provided the great accumulation of free negroes supposed to be consequent on such a step could be avoided. Among the non-slave holders, I never knew a person of ordinary intelligence, who was not decidedly favourable to some efficient project of that sort. It seems, therefore, that we are imperiously called on to make an effort to concentrate public sentiment, to create some effectual bond of union, and to organize some rational plan of action, whereby the state of society may be changed in a degree commensurate with the actual and progressive change in public

opinion. Of the success of such a plan, no person has any reason to doubt. For if the non-slave holders alone (who are variously estimated at from three-fourths to nine-tenths of the voters of this State, every man of whom has a direct personal interest in putting an end to slavery in this state) were to take up the subject, you may infer the result from this fact among many like it; that a majority of both branches of our General Assembly represent a section of country in which are found less than 38,000 slaves; while the minority in both branches, represent a section containing 128,000 slaves. In the former section there are more than 40,000 voters, of whom not more than 3,000 own any slaves. In the latter section there are about 38,000, of whom about 10,000 own slaves. Unless every thing, therefore, that has been said and written on this subject, on every side of it, be false, nothing but concert is any longer necessary for success.

"As I have already gone somewhat into detail, I beg leave to suggest the several plans by which, the necessary concert being obtained, it has been supposed we might effect our object.

"The first and most usually advocated is, to call a state convention, and by the embodied wisdom and power of the state, at once, and effectually settle the whole matter.

"The second is, to pass laws under the present constitution, for the gradual emancipation of all slaves born after a certain period: adding also a provision, that negroes thus emancipated, should be taken, after they were released from their former owners, and by the authority of the state hired out until the proceeds would carry them to Liberia, or some other proper place.

"The third is, to repeal all laws now existing which tend in any way to encourage slavery; to prevent the further importation of them; and by taxes or descents, transfers of title, &c. &c. so to discourage that kind of property as to drive it gradually from the commonwealth.

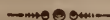
"The fourth is for the state to purchase them, and send them away.— Other plans have also been advocated by a few visionary persons; as that, for example, which recommends instant and general emancipation, that which proposes an amalgamation of the whites and blacks, and a few others perhaps, equally wild and intolerable. I think, however, all sober persons agree, that no plan which does not very closely resemble one of the four first stated, can or ought to be successful. I will not trouble you with a discussion of the merits of those several plans of operation: which indeed would be useless, as you already know my preference for that placed as the second in order. It may not be improper to say a word in relation to the fourth plan, as that is frequently stated to be the only one that is equitable or practicable; especially by persons who oppose every thing that looks towards the ultimate liberation of the blacks. The total valuation of the property of this state for taxation,

in the year 1830, was \$104,647,736: the whole number of slaves about 166,000. Their aggregate value for taxation \$33,000,000. The aggregate of the other taxable property owned by those who own slaves, equal to at least double the value of their slaves; that is, omitting the fractions, to \$66,000,000. Thus the value of the taxable property owned by slave holders, is about \$99,000,000: leaving only a fraction less than \$6,000,000, to be owned by non-slave holders. Hence it appears conclusively, that if the state were to pay for our slaves by a tax on property, no matter how levied, more than ninety per cent of the money required would be paid primarily by those who would finally receive it. This is simply equal, to my paying my neighbour for his slaves, and he paying me for mine. So that there would be no one benefitted by it, but the collecting officers; and the non-slave holders would be oppressed just to the extent demanded of them, as a compensation in money for injuries already done to them. If our taxes were increased to four times their present rate, the sum of about \$200,000 a year might be appropriated to the purchase and removal of the slaves. That sum would remove less than 2,000 slaves per year; whereas the annual increase will not fall short of 5,000, any year hereafter, if effectual steps are not taken to check their growth. Upon the whole, therefore, this project of paying for slaves by taxation, or any other way, seems to be idle and visionary; and the fact that it is so, seems also to prove, that those who formed our present constitution had less sagacity than we all have given them credit for, or else they meant to give us a power over this subject much more extensive than some are willing to allow.

"I conclude by saying, that I will most heartily unite with such of my fellow-citizens as desire to put an end to this enormous evil, by any means which will be at once prudent and effectual, and likely to meet the approbation of the great body of the people agreeing with us, on the general question.

I am very respectfully,

R. J. BRECKINRIDGE"



## Communication.

[We are greatly obliged to an able and learned Friend, for the following article, which merits and will doubtless receive general attention.]

The late frequent arrivals from Liberia, cannot fail to have been gratifying to the friends of the Colonization Society, and to have arrested the attention of the people of this country. It is not among the facts, the least to be noted, that the latest arrivals, by two weeks, from trans-atlantic countries—Europe or



Africa, are from Liberia; letters having been received at the Colonization office, to the 22d of February.

The flourishing condition of the Colony, is exhibited in the reports of the Agent, and in the commercial developements, which extensive shipping lists, published in the *Liberia Herald*, satisfactorily shew. This journal discloses the very important fact that, Monrovia is becoming a port, of respectable and increasing trade. The shipping list for February, announces the arrival of sixteen vessels; some of which, were from St. Helena. It is not generally known that, so great is the intercourse between the United States and St. Helena, that a Commercial Agent for the United States, has lately been appointed to that island, at the representation of our merchants and captains.— This island cannot of itself afford the supplies, refreshments, and facilities of repair, which induce our vessels to frequent it, on their outward and inward bound passages, to India and China. At Monrovia, supplies, fruits and provisions of all sorts, will with time, be furnished, in better quality and at cheaper rates, than they can be had at St. Helena. We foresee that, at no distant day, Monrovia will become the port of *réelache*, for vessels in the India trade. Its geographic position, is perhaps of all localities on the windward coast, the most propitious for such a direction of commerce.

The prosperity and permanency of Liberia, now repose under the care of Divine Providence, upon a sure basis. It has, in itself, all the elements of wealth and greatness, which are *commerce, agriculture* and a *christian population*. The *first*, is increasing beyond the fondest anticipations. In the *Liberia Herald*, among the numerous arrivals announced at Monrovia, is a vessel from France, consigned to Mr. F. Devany. This indicates an extension of the commercial relations, and capacities of the colony, as well as the high respectability of the consignee. The same notice might be made of other merchants at Monrovia. Some of the colonists have already accumulated sums of money, which even in this country, would be esteemed fortunes; and the field of commercial enterprise is wide, among the populous tribes of the interior, and which has not yet been explored. Trade with the nations of the interior, is of all others, the most profitable; and for the large returns which it yields, reference need only be made to the travels of Laing, Clapperton and Bowditch.

The agricultural resources of the colony, are not yet developed. Possessed of a fertile and extensive territory, in a tropical climate, the colonists might produce Rice, Cotton, Sugar, Indigo and Coffee for exportation? The population of Liberia, may not yet be sufficient, for large agricultural enterprise; but cannot the adjacent tribes, furnish labourers? The *Kroo-men* will leave their country, to seek employment along the coast, and will remain among strangers for years, with the hope of acquiring a small competency, upon which to retire to their native land. The *Kabyles*, the *Mozabies* and the *Biscaries* of North Africa, leave their homes, and resort to the Mediterranean coast, at a distance of 2 or 300 miles, to obtain employment as labourers. These people, like the *Kroo-men* of the Windward coast, will suffer every hardship, and a long absence from homes, which they tenderly love, with the hope of acquiring property enough, to buy a wife at their return, and procure a field and fire-side, for domestic enjoyment. The Liberians might adopt the system, of procuring the aborigines, to aid in cultivating their lands, with advantage and success. Such a connexion, between the colonists and them, would be one of mutual dependence; and it would promote the kindlier feelings, arising out of benevolent intercourse. The known disposition of the natives, lends itself to this view; for they express themselves happy to be under the protection of the colony. If the Liberians wish to become happy and respectable, in their own resources, agriculture is that branch of industry, to which their energies must be directed. Producing, as does their soil, all the tropical fruits, the colony must become rich and powerful, if the colonists continue to retain that love of religion and social virtue for which they may now be distinguished.

The climate of Liberia is, doubtless, in progress of amelioration. It has, hitherto, been somewhat fatal to the white man, and unpropitious to the coloured people, who have been removed from the interior of the United States. The coast of Africa, like the southern coast of our own country, may be insalubrious to an individual from other climates. But it may be safely predicted, that the elevated region of the interior, at the distance of 100 or 200 miles from Liberia, will be found to be a healthful and pleasant country. Is the fever of Monrovia more fatal to emigrants, than the *vomito negro* of Vera Cruz, or the

*fièvre jaune* of New Orleans? It is believed not. But let the emigrant pass from Vera Cruz to the high land of Jalapa, or ascend the Mississippi from New Orleans, and he will escape the azotic atmosphere of the coast. It is believed that, if the upland emigrants to Liberia, were, on their arrival, to proceed up the St. Paul's river to the elevated country in which it rises, that the only sickness to which they would be subject, would be mild, such as a law of nature requires, on a change of climate.

The experience which the Colonization Society has already had, must shew the necessity and expediency, of procuring a retreat into the upper country for the upland emigrants, on their arrival at Monrovia. Such a region may, doubtless, be found on the banks of the St. Paul's; and a question of such magnitude, and importance to the future success of its philanthropic scheme should immediately have the consideration of the society. The practicability of obtaining a cession of territory for this object, is communicated in a late letter from the Agent, representing that the chiefs had made propositions to sell their domain.—The St. Paul's is yet unexplored; but it is hoped that the contemplated expedition of Messrs. Taylor and James, will accomplish this object, which the society should by all means, encourage.

The nature of the climate soil and productions, of the upper country of the St. Paul's, may reasonably be inferred, from a description of the country bordering on the Rokelle and Karamanka; rivers which flow into the Atlantic, about 150 miles, north of the St. Paul's. This account is derived from the travels of the late Major Laing, from Sierra Leone to the Timmanee, Kooranko and Soolima countries.

“The valleys (near Seemera) are picturesque and fertile, and are watered by numerous rivulets, which running from North to South, collect behind the lofty hill of Botato, and contribute in swelling the river Karamanka. I was frequently induced to stop, to contemplate the lovely scene around me, consisting of extensive meadows clothed in verdure; fields from which the springing rice and ground-nuts were sending forth their livid green shoots, not inferior in beauty and in health, to the corn-fields of England in March; interspersed here and there with a patch of ground studded with palm trees: while the neighboring

hills, sometimes clothed with rich foliage, sometimes exhibiting a bold and weather-beaten appearance, formed a noble theatre around."

"We left the town (of Nyiniah on the Karamanka,) and having walked an hour and three quarters, we gained the summit of one of the hills, and in our descent on the opposite side, a view quite panoramic, broke upon the sight; an extensive valley partly cultivated, and partly covered with long natural grass about five feet high, (the cultivated part being newly sown;) lines of stately palm-trees as regular as if laid out by art; with here and there, a cluster of camwood-trees, their deep shade affording a relief to the lighter hue of the smaller herbage; these with a murmuring rivulet meandering through the centre, exhibited the appearance of a well-cultivated and tastily arranged garden, rather than a tract amid the wilds of Africa; whilst in the distance, mountain towered above mountain, in all the grandeur and magnificence of nature."

The town of Seemera, mentioned in these extracts, was ascertained by Major Laing to be in latitude  $8^{\circ} 46''$  north, whilst Monrovia is in  $6^{\circ} 15'$ . The St. Paul's has its source in the range of high grounds, from which the Karamanka issues; and the features of the country which it traverses, may be similar to those so beautifully described by Major Laing. He ascertained by barometric observation, that the mean elevation of the high lands at the head of the Karamanka, was 1400 feet.— This is about the elevation of the head waters of the Mississippi. The mean temperature, during the months of July and August, he found to be  $77^{\circ}$  of Fahrenheit, which indicates a very temperate climate.

These facts furnish the strongest probabilities that a district in the upland country of the St. Paul's, may be obtained by the Colonization Society, much more eligible than the coast, for the first settlement of emigrants. The suggestion is believed to be important to the future success of the Society, and to the permanent interests of the Colony. Liberia will, however, continue to flourish; the roots of its strength are now so deep, vigorous and abundant, that they must multiply, produce and sustain an extensive empire.

ABD-ER-RACHMAN.

WASHINGTON, April 3, 1831.



## Letter from Lt. Col. P. Thompson.

Some time ago, Caleb Cushing, Esq. then in London, favoured us with a copy of a letter from this gentleman, addressed to himself, which we have too long omitted to publish. Col. Thompson was formerly Governor of Sierra Leone, is a scholar, and well known as a writer in England, and we add only that the able essay which appeared in our number for June, 1829, is believed to be from his pen. The opinions of such a man are certainly entitled to great respect.

“Col. Thompson has the honor to state to Mr. Cushing, in consequence of their conversation at Dr. Bowring’s this morning, that having been for a considerable time Governor of Sierra Leone, he feels a strong interest in the proceedings of the Americans in Africa, and would be exceedingly glad to be put in communication with any friends of African Colonization in America, who might see a possibility of his contributing in any degree to the promotion of their object. He has long been of opinion that there are inherent causes why African Colonization will not prosper in the hands of the English, and every thing leads him to the conclusion, that the grandest operation, left for the world to witness, after the discovery and population of America, will be the pouring back of the coloured population of America, for the purpose of civilizing Africa.

“Col. Thompson has to regret, that during his residence in Africa, which he left in 1811, he had no acquaintance with Arabic. Since that period he has passed many years in India, and acted in official situations among the Wahabees and other Arab Tribes. From Sierra Leone he fortunately brought away manuscripts, (in the shape of letters to himself and others, although certainly *sealed books* at that time, except through the medium of interpreters) sufficient to convince him that the interior of Africa is in a vastly higher state of civilization and improvement, than the residents on the coast have any idea of; and that an acquaintance with Arabic, which any individual may acquire, by two or three years residence in Egypt or in a Barbary port would be the grand rational key to influence and success in the interior. What the settlers under the English dominion have always wanted, has been freedom to act for themselves, and security for their lands. According to the conception of the writer (for he has never been so fortunate as to visit North Ameri-

ca) a land officer, and a succession of black squatters *a l'Americaine*, would make their way till they displayed the thirteen stripes in the great plateau, from whence the rivers run eastward and westward to the extremities of Africa.

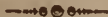
LONDON, May 23d, 1830.



## Testimony of Captain Woodside.

Some of our readers may not have forgotten that this gentleman formerly rendered important services to the Colony, having contributed greatly to the success of the attack upon Trade Town, a notorious piratical establishment. The following is extracted from his letter of the second instant.

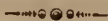
“I returned from Montserado, via. Philadelphia, in November last, and I must say this visit afforded me more real satisfaction than any I had hitherto made to Africa—being in a great measure untrammelled with business, I had leisure to visit Caldwell and King Bromley’s Town, and was much pleased, I assure you, with my excursion. The beauty of the situation of Caldwell, the fertility of soil, and the air of comfort and happiness which reigns throughout, will, I hope, remain an everlasting evidence of the unceasing exertions of our departed friend, Ashmun. I dined with King Bromley and had a long conversation with him on the affairs of the Colony—he frankly admitted to me that he believed no white man but Ashmun could have reconciled him to his loss of the beach trade—that Ashmun had been a father to him and to his people, and that he had convinced him satisfactorily, that trading in his fellow-men was criminal and wrong.



## Mr. Madison.

There will be found in our list of donations, \$100 from Mr. Madison. This great and enlightened and honoured man thus approves and sanctions the object of our Institution. Will the enemies of our Society in South Carolina, or will the rash and deluded youth, who is scattering fire-brands from Boston, which may do mischief beyond his comprehension, deem as nothing

the opinions of such men as MADISON and MARSHALL, illustrious alike for their wisdom and their virtues? we desire no man to take his opinions upon authority, but we are certain that the people of the United States will not decide that an object which such men approve, is either wrong as a *principle*, or inexpedient as an *end*, until some better evidence is produced than bold assertions and pitiful insinuations and abuse.



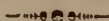
### Spirit of Christianity.

A distinguished and most excellent Lady in Virginia, who has long been training up her servants with a view to their colonization in Africa, writes—

"I have used chiefly this language to induce them to go. Although it is a fine country, and you will if industrious, obtain good property and many advantages, yet much as I wish you to have comfort in your life, these are not the objects I send you for: my heart is set on your being in a situation to live an upright life before God, providing things honest in the sight of all men. I yearn to have you in a situation where your children cannot be sold from you—that bitter woe to me. Your children will receive education there—and there will be a blessing of God on your walking in the paths of his commandments, in view of the people who will come around you learning what is right after your example. I cannot set you free here, you would be in obscure places, where I should never know whether you were doing good or ill; bringing up your children for God and glory, or for shame and disgrace in this life and the life to come. I read to them the chapter in Isaiah's description of the glory of the church in the latter days, and tell them that these promises are to christians that will be in Africa as much as to christians of any other nation; that Africa once had knowledge, but has been under the scourge of our heavenly Father, as the nations of Europe now are. I try to impress them with the necessity of Temperance societies and Sunday schools; and devoting a part of the money they may earn to the public buildings and the general good of the country. I have read the Bible to them every day for some years; bowed down in prayer with them to our God, with seldom ever a sin-



gle morning's interruption from sickness. God has favoured me so much in this labour of love for them, that a sense of unworthiness under such mercy is unspeakably oppressive to my spirit, till I call to mind that He is my Father and will give good gifts in the midst of all my guiltiness."



## Expeditions for Liberia.

The Pennsylvania Society has generously placed at the disposal of the Parent Society \$3235, on condition that this amount shall within two years be applied to the removal to Liberia of slaves who may be gratuitously manumitted for the purpose of Colonization. This has been done, with the view of enabling the Society to purchase and send out for the use of the Colony, a small, well built and coppered schooner, which will prove of inestimable benefit to the establishment.

The Society in New York is very actively engaged in assisting the purpose (already announced by the Board) of despatching an expedition from that city, on the 1st of May.

It will be seen by our list of Donations, that more than \$400 have been contributed by a few individuals in Natchez. Our Friends at the West, and in the Southwest, are becoming deeply interested in the design of our Society, and we trust that an expedition will be fitted out from New Orleans, in the course of a few months. We need hardly add, that the hope of prosecuting vigorously the work in which we are engaged, depends in great measure upon the *Liberality of the Fourth-of-July Collections*; to which, therefore, we invite the attention of all the Clergy in our land.



## Intelligence.

COMMERCE AT LIBERIA.—To give to our readers some idea of the trade already carried on at our African Colony, we insert the following Marine list from the *Liberia Herald*, of Feb. 6th.

*Marine List.*—Arrived since our last.

On the 9th ult. French brig *Africain*, Gillette, 38 days from France, to F. Devany.

- "11th. Brig *John Decatur*, Chappel, 37 days from Boston, to F. Devany.  
 "12th. Brig *Volador*, Fitch, 39 days from Norfolk, with 85 emigrants.  
 To J. R. Dailey, and Jno. B. Russwurm. *Passenger*, Dr. Todsén.  
 "13th. Agency's sch. *Messurado*, Thompson; from the Windward.  
 "Colonial sch. *Anne*, Brooks, from the Windward.  
 "19th. Sch. *Zembuca*, Martin, from the Windward, to G. R. McGill.  
 "20th. British Ship *Dee*, Moore, 37 days from Liverpool, to C. M. Waring, and F. Taylor.  
 "21st. Colonial sch. *Susan*, Elliott, from the Leeward.  
 "Brig *Romp*, Easton, 60 days from Providence, to F. Devany.  
 "British sch. *Hibernia*, Jones, 6 days from Sierra Leone.  
 "27th. Sch. *Zembuca*, Martin, from the Leeward.  
 "Brig *Susan*, Brookhouse, 14 days from St. Helena, to J. R. Dailey, and Jno. B. Russwurm.  
 "Brig *Velocity*, Charlton, 14 days from St. Helena, to J. R. Dailey, and Jno. B. Russwurm.  
 "28th. Sch. *Hilarity*, Lyle, 30 days from Philadelphia, consigned to C. M. Waring and F. Taylor.  
 "29th. Brig *Liberia*, Muzzey, from the Leeward, Passenger, Rev. Mr. Kissling, German Missionary, to C. M. Waring, and F. Taylor.  
 "1st. Feb. Colonial sch. *Anne*, Brooks, from the Windward.

## SAILED.

- On the 7th ult. Sch. *Zembuca*, Martin, for the Leeward.  
 "11th. Agency's sch. *Messurado*, Thompson, for the Windward.  
 "12th. French brig *Africaine*, Gillette, for the Leeward.  
 "Brig *John Decatur*, Chappel, for the Leeward.  
 "13th. Colonial sch. *Anne*, Brooks, for the Windward.  
 "26th. Colonial sch. *Susan*, Higgins, for the Windward.  
 "Brig *Romp*, Easton, for the Leeward.  
 "27th. Agency sch. *Messurado*, Thompson, for the Leeward.  
 "1st. of Feb. British ship *Dee*, Moore, for the Leeward.  
 "3d. do. sch. *Zembuca*, Martin, for Baltimore. Passenger, Mr. J. R. Dailey.  
 "Brig *Volador*, Fitch, for Cape de Verd.  
 "4th. Feb. Brig *Susan*, Brookhouse, for the Leeward.  
 "6th. Feb. Brig *Velocity*, Carlton, for the Windward.

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### Resolutions of the Legislature of Massachusetts.

In our number for July, 1830, we published a Report of the Committee of the Senate of this State, to which was referred the Memorial of the American Colonization Society. The Resolutions proposed by the Committee have since passed both Houses of the Legislature in the following form—

"Resolved, That the Legislature of Massachusetts view with great inter-

est, the efforts made by the American Colonization Society, in establishing an Asylum on the Coast of Africa for the free people of colour of the U. States; and, that in the opinion of this Legislature, it is a subject eminently deserving the attention and aid of Congress, so far as shall be consistent with the powers of Congress, the rights of the several States of the Union, and the rights of the individuals who are the objects of those efforts.

*“Resolved*, That our Senators and Representatives in Congress be, and they are hereby requested, in the name of the State of Massachusetts, to solicit the assistance of the General Government, to aid the laudable designs of that Society, in such manner as Congress in its wisdom may deem expedient, and is consistent with the provisions of the Constitution of the U. States.

*“Resolved*, That His Excellency the Governor be, and he is hereby requested, to furnish a copy of the foregoing Resolutions, to our Senators and Representatives in Congress.

In Senate, *Feb. 22, 1831.*

Read and passed, sent down for concurrence.

SAMUEL LATHROP, *President.*

In House of Representatives, *March 10th, 1831.*

Read twice and passed in concurrence.

W. B. CALHOUN, *Speaker.*

*March 10. 1831.*—Approved.

LEVI LINCOLN, *Governor.*

REVIVALS AMONG THE AFRICANS IN ROCHESTER.—About the 7th of December last, there came to this village two respectable African Preachers, viz: R. Melvin of Upper Canada, and C. A. Boyd, of Alleghany county, Pa. The Lord has blessed their labours abundantly since their arrival here; and they have been instrumental in the hands of God of breaking up ball rooms, and all kinds of vice; and the Africans are turning their houses of mirth into houses of praise to God. A number of them have already experienced religion: the like has never been known among the Africans in this place before!

SIMON BOLIVAR.—In addition to his great and untiring efforts to break the chains of clerical and political bondage that oppressed his countrymen, he acted the part of perfect consistency, in using his influence for the enfranchisement of the *African Slaves*, who were there reduced to abject servility. We have been informed that, in the early stage of the Colombian revolution, he emancipated from 700 to 1000 slaves; and that he strenuously and successfully urged the total abolition of slavery by the government. Since his death, it is stated that he has freed 150 more, by will, who were still held by him, and who probably, preferred remaining with him while he lived.—*Genius of Un. Eman.*

The New York City Colonization Society is now completely organized. On looking over the names of the Managers, we are led to hope that something efficient may be expected from them. They have begun by issuing a short address to the good people of this city, in which they urge the importance of the object they have undertaken, and invite the co-operation of the benevolent. If New York, or even a small part of it, would put its shoulder cordially to the wheel, the enterprise would move on with an energy and power which it has never yet been able to command. A vessel with emigrants is to sail from this port for Liberia in five or six weeks. With a little exertion on the part of the Managers, the whole expenses of the voyage can be defrayed without drawing on the Parent Society to the amount of one cent! We trust the opportunity will not be lost.—[*Journal of Commerce*.

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*"Death of the Rev. Benjamin R. Skinner.*—The brig Liberia, which arrived a few days ago at Philadelphia, from Monrovia, brings the unwelcome tidings of the death of our brother, on board of that vessel, on his passage home, on the 1st of last month

"Thus have been withered, for the present, all our hopes, our anticipations of carrying the glad tidings of salvation to that land of ignorance and vice. Like Moses, our brother was only permitted to take a look at the goodly land, it is reserved for some future Joshua to enter in and possess it.

"While we sorrow for our brother, we cannot, do not regret, that the attempt to establish a mission in Liberia has been made. Shall the love of sordid gold lead the slaves of Mammon to visit the shores of Africa, and peril their lives in the detestable traffic of buying and selling their fellow-beings; and shall the disciples of Jesus evince less courage or fortitude or zeal in their Master's cause—be less anxious to encounter danger when their message is of such unspeakable importance to the eternal interests of mankind.

"In the very interesting detail of the exercises of his mind respecting his engaging in the missionary enterprise, which our brother gave on the evening of his designation, he remarked, that he did not expect to be long spared, but if he could be useful during the period allotted to him, he should be contented. His course though short, has been well employed.

has at least furnished another instance of the holy influence of the Christian religion, in diffusing pure benevolence and genuine philanthropy in its disciples. Our brother's voyage was not undertaken to accumulate wealth, or to acquire fame or distinction. A nobler feeling animated him. It was the offspring of holy love. He counted not his life dear unto him so that he might win souls unto Christ. He loved his Redeemer and was anxious that others should love him too.

"During the brief sojourn of brother Skinner in this city, it was our happy privilege to enjoy a portion of the time he could spare from more important objects. We witnessed his ardent desires, his holy ardour in behalf of a perishing land. We mourn, therefore, not only for a devoted missionary and disciple of Jesus, but for a friend and brother. But we are comforted, and we trust it will be a source of consolation to his afflicted parents and connections, by this consideration, that he died in the service of his heavenly Master—a martyr to a good cause.

"We trust that the friends of missions will not despond, that a mission will not be abandoned, so promising in appearances, so ready for the harvest. Some pious coloured men may certainly be found along our southern seaboard, who may be qualified by a course of study for this mission. Let us not abandon this work until other means are tried and fail. 'Let us not be weary in well-doing for in due time we shall reap if we faint not.'"—*Religious Herald*.

To the above well written notice of this excellent Missionary, we must be allowed to add our personal testimony, and to say, that perhaps the world has seen few if any individuals of more elevated piety and benevolence, than was the lamented man who has just fallen a martyr for Africa. Though suddenly and early removed, many hearts will remember him, and the thoughts of his meek and simple but sublime devotion come over them like the influences of a purer and brighter world. He that loseth his life, says our Saviour, for my sake, shall save it; and confident we may be, that our deceased Brother has entered upon a life immortal, and upon the possession of an inheritance which shall never fade away. Sorrow and darkness exist not in Heaven. The glory of that world is serene and eternal.



## Contributions

*To the American Colonization Society, from 18th March, to 15th April, 1831.*

Collection by Rev. Mr. Bernard, of Great Falls circuit,	\$18 28
by Rev. Samuel Ellis, agent, as follows:—	
from Samuel Ellis,	\$1
A. Vantries,	1
Jas. Thompson,	25
Hugh Doak,	25
Sanford S. Denney,	50
Isaac Stratten,	25
Samuel Beyers,	25
John Cunningham,	25
George Mattern,	25
Peter Gray,	25
Carried forward,	\$18 28



<i>Brought forward,</i>		\$18 28
C. Crum,	50	
John Peyers,	50	
C. Oyer,	1	
Hugh Smith,	50	
C. Peightal,	25	
John Walker,	25	
H. W. Miller,	25	
Thomas Tanyhill,	50	
George W. Glassen,	25	8 25
<b>From a "Subscriber," Chester District, S. C. as follows:—</b>		
Daniel McMillan, for Repository,	\$2	
John Weir, for do	2	
do	3	
Daniel McMillan,	3	
Hugh McGniston,	1	
John A. Cooper,	1	
Robert McMillan,	1	
William Wilson,	1	
William Ewing,	1	
John McMinot,	2	
Alexander Wier,	1	
J. K. Hemphill,	1	
John Hemphill,	2	21
Robert Gilmor, Esq. of Baltimore, his 3d payment on the plan of Gerrit Smith, .....		100
James Madison, Esq. of Virginia, late President of U. S.		100
An association of the following gentlemen of Kenhawa, Va. on the plan of Gerrit Smith, per James A. Lewis, of Kenhawa, viz:—James Bream, Bradford Noyes, Isaac Noyes, David Ruffner, Lewis Ruffner, James A. Lewis, James C. McFarland, Daniel Ruffner, Moses M. Fuqua, James Hewit, Richard E. Putney, James H. Fry, Joseph L. Fry, Aaron Whittaker, Philip R. Thompson, Sen. Joseph Lovell, Benjamin H. Smith, Lewis Summers, Andrew Lewis, Walter Trimble, Frederick Brooks, \$5 each, .....		
		105
Daniel Cloud, of Shenandoah, per Henry S. Keppler,		10
Collections by Rev. George Potts, of Natchez, Miss. viz:		
from S. D. ann subsc'n. 5 years,	\$100	
M. D. do do 5 do	100	
E. D. do do 5 do	100	
F. S. do do 5 do	100	
T. H. a donation,	22 50	
	\$422 50	
Deduct premium paid by Mr. Potts, for draft,	2 50	420
Joseph Avery, of Conway, Mass. 2 last years' subsc'n.		20
Collection by Rev. Robert Burch, in Elmira station, Tioga county, New York, as follows:—		
Elmira congregation,	\$1 41	
Seely Creek congreg'n.	1 33	
Mr. Bull,	25	
Miss Bull,	25	
Rev. R. Burch,	1 76	5
<i>Total,</i>		<u>\$807 53</u>

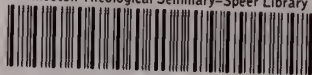






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